To: Private school officials in North Carolina

From: Talbot Troy, Equitable Services Ombudsman

North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

Date: February 4, 2020

Subject: PRIVATE SCHOOL CONSULTATIONS FOR EQUITABLE SERVICES

During the first few months of each calendar year, public school districts are required to invite private schools to consult about the following federal programs offered under the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA):

- Title I-A for economically disadvantaged schools
- Title I-C for migrant education
- Title II-A for teacher and school leader improvement
- Title III-A for English learners and immigrant students
- Title IV-A for enrichment, technology and school safety
- Title IV-B for afterschool programs.

The consultations are designed to help private school officials learn about services that may be available to their students and teachers. Without a response (yes or no) from each private school, administrators in the districts are required to repeat the invitation multiple times, including by certified mail. Public school district administrators must prove to NCDPI that they have reached out to all private schools before submitting their annual applications for any of the federal funds listed above. By responding promptly to the invitations, private school officials can help the public school administrators complete their outreach and efficiently plan for the expenditure of tax dollars.

NCDPI encourages private school officials to attend the consultations and learn important details specific to the programs offered in their districts. In addition, the <a href="NCDPI Equitable Services web site">NCDPI Equitable Services web site</a> offers general information, including:

- student information private schools should bring to the consultation
- methods of calculating equitable share amounts
- the list of officially recognized private schools in North Carolina
- frequently asked questions (FAQ) about equitable services.

Our goal at NCDPI is to help you and the public school officials provide excellent service to the children of North Carolina. Please feel free to contact me at <a href="mailto:talbot.troy@dpi.nc.gov">talbot.troy@dpi.nc.gov</a> or 919-807-3957 if you have any question or comments.